

STATE OF MICHIGAN



JOHN ENGLER, Governor

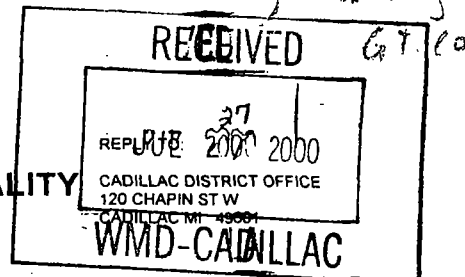
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

"Better Service for a Better Environment"

HOLLISTER BUILDING, PO BOX 30473, LANSING MI 48909-7973

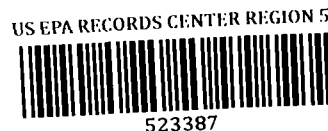
INTERNET: [www.deq.state.mi.us](http://www.deq.state.mi.us)

RUSSELL J. HARDING, Director



July 27, 2000

Mr. Chris Hubbell  
Williamsburg Receiving & Storage  
10190 Munro Road  
Williamsburg, Michigan 48690



Dear Mr. Hubbell:

SUBJECT: Notice Letter NL-07-00-01-009C  
NPDES Permit No. MI0044741  
Williamsburg Receiving & Storage

This is to follow up the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) site inspection of July 14, 2000. We found several violations of your discharge permit.

1. Brine is discharging outside the brine pit areas. A large pool of brine was located near the brine pits on the corner of Angell Road and Munro Road. This ponding still has the potential to discharge into surface water through the road ditches.
2. A second location of brine discharge is in the area of the brine pits just north of building B. The dewatering process has resulted in runoff on the paved area and into the road ditches.

These discharges are not authorized in your permit and are a violation of Part I, Section A.1., and Part II, Section D.6.

3. Excess water from the cooling water operation is being discharged via overland flow directly into the storm drain.

This discharge is not authorized in your permit.

4. You have removed the discharge pipe, which has created overland flow of water into the catch basin and infiltration into the ground water.

This unauthorized discharge is listed in your permit under Part II, Section E.1.

5. A solids screen is not being used for the cooling water discharge, resulting in whole cherries, cherry pulp and cherry pits at the discharge point.

This is a violation of your permit condition under Part I, Section A.1.a.

6. We have requested backlog discharge monitoring reports (DMRs) and have not received them.

This report requirement is part of Part 31, R323.2155.

The brine must be contained on-site in the brine pit area. All contact cooling water is to be directed into the catch basin. Water in the catch basin must be screened prior to being discharged into Tobacco swamp. DMR's must be submitted as required in the permit.

These are serious problems that must be addressed in a timely manner. A work plan must be submitted to this office by August 18, 2000, with work completed by September 15, 2000. The work plan needs to address the brine runoff and ponding issue, the contact cooling water discharge into only the catch basin, and removal of whole cherries, cherry pulp and pits from the discharge. Discharge Monitoring Report backlogs are to be submitted no later than August 10, 2000.

Any discharge not authorized by your permit is a violation of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended, and could subject you to penalties and fines under the statute. Compliance with the action recommended in this Notice Letter does not relieve Williamsburg Receiving and Storage of any liability for past or continuing violations of the NPDES permit or the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended.

We appreciate your cooperation and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Sy Vongphasouk  
Environmental Quality Analyst  
Surface Water Quality Division  
231-775-3960, Extension 6267

cc: Ms. Maureen Kennedy, Grand Traverse County Drain Commissioner  
Mr. Ross Childs, Grand Traverse County Administrator  
Mr. Jeff Fischer, MDEQ-SWQD, Lansing  
Ms. Janice Heuer, MDEQ-WMD, Cadillac